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Shelters for abused women in Canada, 2010

by Marta Burczycka and Adam Cotter

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Note

Data on annual admissions to shelters are under revision due to incorrect reporting by a survey respondent. Revised data will be released when available.

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Juristat

Shelters for abused women in Canada, 2010

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Symbols

. not available for any reference period
.. not available for a specific reference period
... not applicable
0 true zero or a value rounded to zero
0^s value rounded to 0 (zero) where there is a meaningful distinction between true zero and the value that was rounded
^{p} preliminary
^{r} revised
x suppressed to meet the confidentiality requirements of the *Statistics Act*
^{E} use with caution
F too unreliable to be published

Shelters for abused women in Canada, 2010: Highlights

- In 2010, there were 593 shelters for abused women operating in Canada, 24 more than in 2008, the last time this information was collected. Large increases were noted in the number of second-stage housing facilities (up 11% or 11 shelters) and transition homes (up 8% or 22 facilities).
- The number of beds available to clients of shelters also increased. On April 15, 2010, there were 11,461 beds available in shelters across Canada, an increase of 7% from two years earlier.
- Between April 1, 2009 and March 31, 2010 there were over 64,500 admissions of women to shelters across Canada, up 5% from 2007/2008. Almost one-third (31%) of these women had stayed at the shelter before, up from one-quarter (25%) in 2007/2008.
- Among women staying in transition homes and other shelters on April 15, 2010, abuse was among the most common reasons for admissions (71%). Among abused women, most (67%) were looking for shelter from current partners, and most (60%) had not reported the abuse to police.
- One-quarter (25%) of all shelters reported serving an on-reserve population, and 64% of all shelters reported offering services sensitive to the needs of Aboriginal clients.

Shelters for abused women in Canada, 2010

by Marta Burczycka and Adam Cotter

Canadian federal, provincial and territorial governments continue to develop a range of policy initiatives aimed at addressing family violence and spousal abuse (Department of Justice Canada 2011). Among those designed to help victims of abuse, initiatives that focus on shelter and housing are especially important. According to a recent study, emergency shelter and related housing assistance are among the most frequently accessed type of victims' services in Canada (Sauvé 2009).

Using data collected by the 2010 Transition Home Survey (THS), this *Juristat* article analyses information on residential facilities in Canada, particularly those that offer shelter to abused women. It presents information on the different types of facilities, the number of annual admissions, the reasons women seek shelter and the variety of services offered to clients. In addition, this article examines the use of shelters offering culturally sensitive services to Aboriginal people, including those living on reserve and in the territories.

The information presented in this article refers to two distinct time periods. First, data pertaining to the characteristics of facilities, the number of annual admissions, the types of services offered and financial information were collected in 2010 and are based upon the 12-month period that preceded the survey.[1] Second, information was collected on the women being served in shelters on the specific "snapshot date" of April 15, 2010.

Shelters for abused women increase in recent years

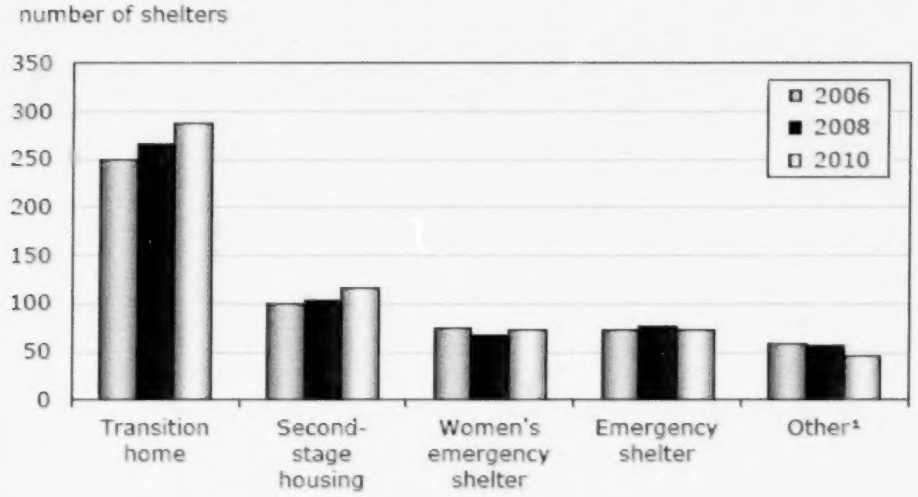
On April 15, 2010, there were 593 shelters for abused women operating across Canada (Table 1). This was an increase of 24 shelters since 2008 (up 4%), the last time the survey was conducted, and 40 shelters since 2006 (up 7%).

Since 2008, the number of shelters in operation increased or remained stable in all provinces and territories for which data is available. The largest increase was reported in Nova Scotia, where the number of facilities increased by 2 since 2008 (up 13%).

Transition homes and second-stage housing increase more than other types of shelters

In Canada, there are several types of shelters available to women leaving abusive situations (Text box 1). While the overall number of shelters in Canada has increased, the growth among the different types of shelters has varied. With 22 more shelters in 2010 than in 2008, transition homes increased the most and continued to be the most common type of shelter for abused women in 2010 (Chart 1). Other increases in 2010 were noted in the number of second-stage housing facilities (up 11 shelters or 11%) and women's emergency shelters (up 6 shelters or 9%).

Chart 1
Number of shelters by type of facility, Canada, 2006, 2008 and 2010



1. 'Other' includes all other facilities not otherwise classified, such as Rural Family Violence Prevention Centres (Alberta), Interim Housing (Manitoba), and other types of emergency shelters.
Source: Statistics Canada, Canadian Centre for Justice Statistics, Transition Home Survey.

Text box 1
Types of residential facilities for abused women

For the purposes of the Transition Home Survey (THS), the term 'shelter' is used broadly to refer to all residential facilities for abused women. In addition, the following generic categories were developed to further define the various types of shelters. Referring to these definitions, those responding to the THS were asked to select the facility type that **best described** their shelter.

Transition home/shelter: Facility offering short- or moderate-term (1 day to 11 weeks) secure housing for abused women with or without children. This type of shelter may also be referred to as first-stage emergency housing.

Second-stage housing: Facility offering long-term (3 to 12 months) secure housing with support and referral services designed to assist women while they search for permanent housing.

Women's emergency centre/shelter: Facility offering short-term (1 to 21 days) respite for women and their dependent children.

Emergency shelter: Facility offering short-term (1 to 3 days) respite for a wide population range, not exclusively abused women. Some facilities may provide accommodation for men as well as women. This type of facility may accommodate residents who are not associated with family abuse but are without a home due to an emergency situation (e.g., eviction for non-payment of rent).

Safe home network: A network of private homes in rural or remote areas where there is no full-fledged operating shelter. It offers subsidiary short-term (1 to 3 days) emergency housing for women.

Other: Includes all other residential facilities offering services to abused women with or without children, not otherwise classified. This category includes rural family violence prevention centres in Alberta, interim housing in Manitoba, family resource centres in Ontario, and other types of emergency shelters such as YWCAs. Note that these services may not be exclusive to abused women.

The shelter types that have increased in number over the past decade tend to rely less on funding from provincial and territorial governments. While all shelters receive some funding from provincial and territorial governments, the proportion of income received from these sources varies by shelter type. For example, transition homes receive 81% of their funding from provincial and territorial governments. Meanwhile, women's emergency shelters (71%), emergency shelters (62%) and second-stage housing (37%) receive less of their funding from the provinces and territories. These shelter types rely more on municipal governments, charitable donations and user fees for their revenues.

Bed space growing as high-capacity shelters increase

Not only has the number of shelters in Canada increased over the past several years, so too has the number of beds available to clients. In 2010, the total number of beds available was 11,461 (Table 2).[2] This represented an increase of 757 beds or 7% from two years earlier, and an increase of 936 beds or 9% from 2006. This growth in bed availability is driven by the increase in high-capacity facilities that offer a higher average number of beds. Second-stage housing facilities, for example, provide an average of 22 beds per shelter, while transition homes offer 15 beds per shelter.

On April 15, 2010, the majority of beds in shelters for women were occupied. Among those facilities that admit women exclusively, almost three-quarters (74%) of funded and licensed beds were occupied (Text box 2), a proportion that showed little variation among transition homes, women's emergency shelters and second-stage housing.

Text box 2
Measuring shelter occupancy

The availability of spaces within shelters can be measured through the concept of bed space. Facilities responding to the THS provide a count of the funded or licensed beds they have for clients (whether or not a bed is currently occupied). Respondents are asked to exclude unfunded and unlicensed emergency beds, such as cots or sofas. The total number of beds available presented here may therefore undercount the total number of beds that shelters are prepared to provide to clients, if those shelters choose to offer unfunded or unlicensed beds.

Occupancy rates for women-only shelters showed some variation across the country in 2010. Among the provinces, shelters in Newfoundland and Labrador reported the highest occupancy rate (93%), while Manitoba, New Brunswick and Nova Scotia reported the lowest (55%). Among the territories, Northwest Territories (91%) and Nunavut (99%) reported high occupancy rates, while the rate in Yukon (28%) was comparatively low.

Text table 1
Beds, women and children residents and occupancy rates in women-only shelters, Canada, provinces and territories, April 15, 2010

Province or territory	Women-only facilities	Beds	Women and children residents[1]	Occupancy rate
		number		percent
Newfoundland and Labrador	13	161	150	93
Prince Edward Island	4	54	37	69
Nova Scotia	18	304	168	55
New Brunswick	22	294	163	55
Quebec	120	1,844	1,388	75
Ontario	157	3,581	3,085	86
Manitoba	26	539	296	55
Saskatchewan	25	480	359	75
Alberta	43	1,134	702	62
British Columbia	101	1,370	869	63
Yukon	5	67	19	28
Northwest Territories	6	64	58	91
Nunavut	6	69	68	99
Canada	**546**	**9,961**	**7,362**	**74**

1. In order to accurately present occupancy rates, the presence of child residents is used in this calculation.
Source: Statistics Canada, Canadian Centre for Justice Statistics, Transition Home Survey.

Overall admissions remain stable in 2009/2010

Annual admissions to shelters remained stable in 2009/2010, continuing the pattern evident over the past several years. Between April 1, 2009 and March 31, 2010 there were about 64,500 admissions of women to shelters across Canada (Table 3), representing a rate of 452 admissions per 100,000 women.[3] The rate of admissions was up 2% from 2007/2008.

The rate of admissions tends to be higher in the territories and the western provinces than in the eastern part of the country. In Yukon, the Northwest Territories and Nunavut, the rate of admissions in 2009/2010 were six to eight times higher than in Manitoba, the province with the highest rate (670 admissions per 100,000 women). The lowest rate of admission among the provinces was recorded in Newfoundland and Labrador (260 admissions per 100,000 women). As admission rates can vary according to shelter capacity, differences among provinces may be influenced by the number of high-capacity shelters in operation.

Along with information on annual admissions, shelters were asked to provide a count of the women in residence at their facility on April 15, 2010. In total, there were 4,645 women staying at shelters across Canada on that day (Table 4). The majority were staying at transition homes (36%), emergency shelters (21%), second-stage housing (20%) and women's emergency shelters (15%). The remaining 7% of women were staying in other types of shelters such as Family Resource Centres and Interim Housing.

Text box 3
Admissions of men

The Transition Home Survey (THS) collects a limited amount of information about the admission of adult males to shelters. Among the 593 shelters that offered services to abused women in 2009/2010, 47 or 8% also admitted adult men, usually to emergency shelters or safe home networks. Among males admitted in 2009/2010, 3% were admitted because of spousal violence and another 4% sought shelter because of another type of abuse. Information provided by shelters indicates that some of these situations involved elderly or disabled men who had experienced abuse by a caretaker or family member. Information on other reasons for admission is not available from the THS.

Text box 4
Admissions of children

Most shelters in Canada allow children to be admitted with their mothers. On April 15, 2010, almost three-quarters (74%) of women with parental responsibilities brought their children into the shelter with them. On average, these women were admitted with 2 children. Most of the 3,611 children admitted on snapshot day were in shelters because either they or their mothers had been abused (85%).

Many shelters offer services specifically for child residents. Among services geared towards children, recreational services were most frequently provided, offered by about three-quarters of shelters.

Text table 2
Services offered to child residents of shelters for abused women, Canada, 2010

Type of service	percent
Outdoor recreation spaces	78
Indoor recreation spaces	75
Individual counselling	65
Programs for child witnesses or victims of abuse (e.g. play therapy)	54
Group counselling	51
Culturally sensitive services for ethno-cultural and visible minority children	48
Culturally sensitive services for Aboriginal children	48
Baby-sitting services	47
Child protection or family services	22
School classes or tutoring	18
Supervised visiting for non-resident parent	8
Temporary placement of children without parents	2
Other[1]	15

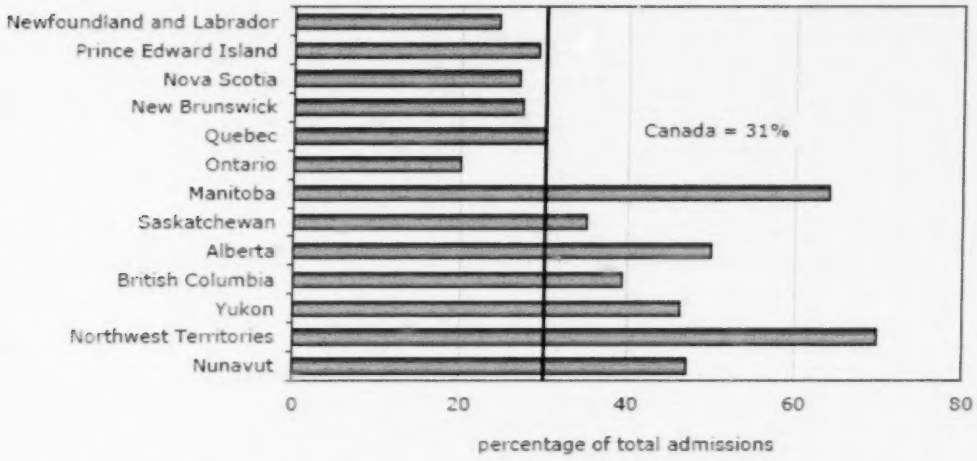
1. Examples of other services include school lunch programs, transportation to and from school, and other services.
Source: Statistics Canada, Canadian Centre for Justice Statistics, Transition Home Survey.

Re-admissions to shelters highest in Manitoba

Of the women staying in facilities on April 15th, 2010 many had sought shelter there more than once before (Table 5). Almost one-third (31%) of women had at least one previous stay at the shelter, up from 25% recorded on the 2008 snapshot day. Women's emergency shelters reported the highest proportion of clients who had been at the facility before (43%), higher than the proportions for emergency shelters (36%), transition homes (33%), and second-stage housing (27%).

Among the provinces, shelters in Manitoba reported the highest proportion of re-admissions on snapshot day. Almost two-thirds (64%) of women residing in Manitoba's shelters were repeat clients, more than double the proportion for Canada as a whole (31%) (Chart 2). The lowest proportions of re-admissions were reported in Ontario (20%) and Newfoundland and Labrador (24%).

Chart 2
Re-admissions to shelters, by province and territory, April 15, 2010



Source: Statistics Canada, Canadian Centre for Justice Statistics, Transition Home Survey.

Full-capacity most common reason for turning women away

In addition to admissions and re-admissions, shelters were asked to provide a count of how many women were turned away from their facility on April 15th, 2010. In total, 426 women were turned away from facilities that day.

As in previous years, the most common reason for not providing admission to a client was that the shelter was full, accounting for half (50%) of all reasons for turn-aways. The presence of mental health issues as well as the use of drugs and/or alcohol were other frequently reported reasons for refusing admission, at 10% and 8%, respectively.

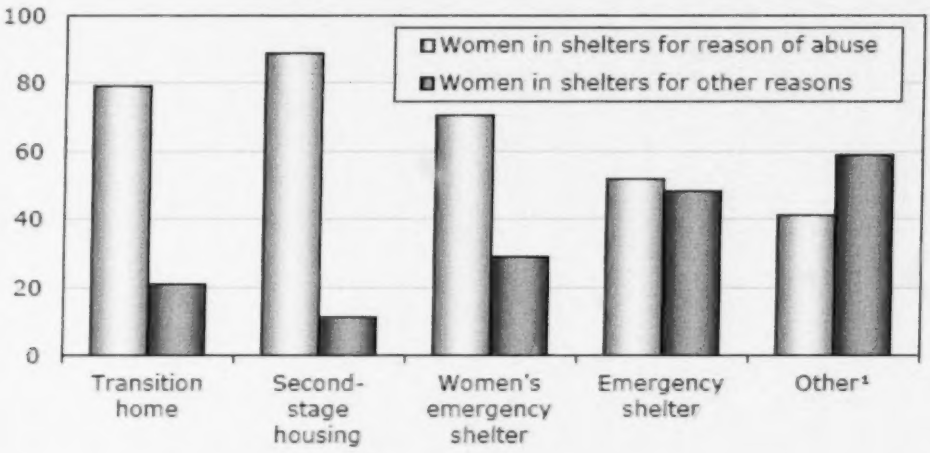
Most women seek shelter for reasons of abuse or housing

Most, but not all, women staying in shelters on April 15, 2010 were there because of abuse.[4] Of the 4,645 women in shelters on that date, 71% reported abuse as their reason for seeking refuge. The majority of women reported emotional abuse (66%) and physical abuse (53%), while relatively large proportions reported threats (40%), financial abuse (39%), harassment (28%) and sexual abuse (25%) (Table 6).[5] In addition to seeking safety for themselves, the desire to protect their children from suffering or witnessing abuse was a leading motivation for women to seek shelter. For example, nearly one-quarter (24%) of abused women in shelters reported that wanting to protect their children from psychological abuse was among their reasons for admission.

Other reasons that motivated women to stay at shelters included the inability to find affordable housing (30%), issues related to mental health (23%) and drug and alcohol dependency (19%). On average, each woman reported five different reasons for seeking admission to a shelter.

On snapshot day, transition homes, second-stage housing and women's emergency shelters reported the highest proportions of women staying for reasons of abuse (Chart 3). In contrast, emergency shelters and other shelter types (for example, safe home networks, Ontario's Family Resource Centres) reported larger proportions of women staying for reasons other than abuse.

Chart 3
Women staying at selected shelter types for reasons of abuse, Canada, April 15, 2010

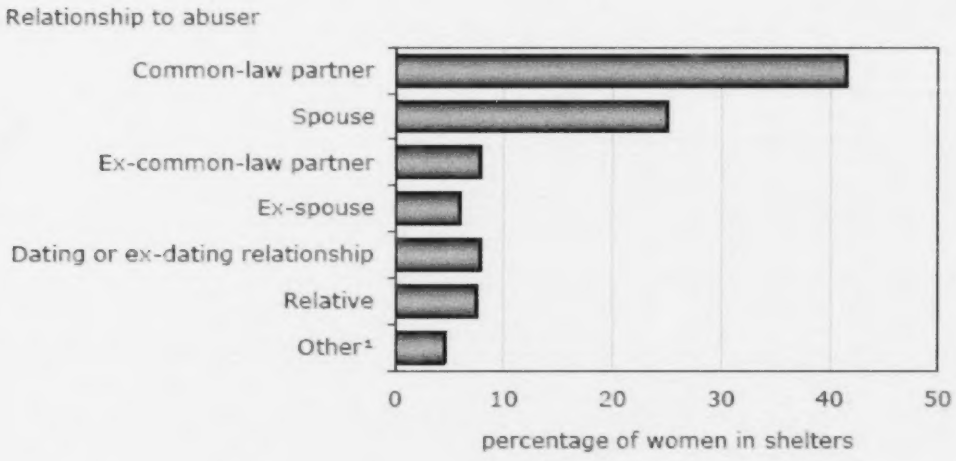


1. Includes all other facilities not otherwise classified, such as Rural Family Violence Prevention Centres (Alberta), Interim Housing (Manitoba), and other types of emergency shelters.
Source: Statistics Canada, Canadian Centre for Justice Statistics, Transition Home Survey.

Abuse by current partners prevalent among women residing in shelters

Among abused women, those experiencing abuse by a current spouse or common-law partner continued to be the most frequent residents of shelters (Chart 4). Of the women reporting abuse among their motivations for seeking shelter, most indicated that their abuser was either a current common-law partner (42%) or spouse (25%). Former common-law partners or spouses were less frequently cited as abusers at 8% and 6%, respectively. The remainder of abused women (19%) reported abuse from other types of relationships, such as dating partners, caregivers or non-spousal family members.

Chart 4
Relationship to abuser among women residing in shelters, Canada, April 15, 2010

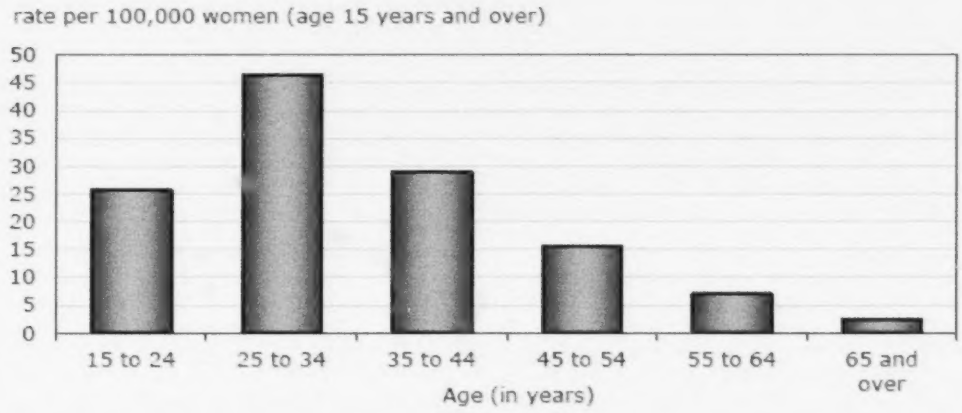


1. Includes caregiver, friend/acquaintance, authority figure, and other unspecified relationships.
Source: Statistics Canada, Canadian Centre for Justice Statistics, Transition Home Survey.

In most areas of the country, the rates of women seeking shelter from a current or former spouse or common-law partner were close to the national rate (25 women per 100,000 married, common-law and separated or divorced women) (Table 7). The exceptions to this were in the territories, particularly Nunavut, where the rates were substantially higher.

The highest rate of women residing in shelters for reasons of abuse was among those aged 25 to 34 (Chart 5). After age 34, the presence of abused women in shelters decreased steadily with age. This distribution mirrors the rates of self-reported spousal violence in Canada, which tend to be highest among those aged 25 to 34 and to decline as individuals grow older (Brennan 2011).

Chart 5
Abused women in shelters, by age group, Canada, April 15, 2010



Note: Rates are based upon July 1st population estimates of women aged 15 years and over. Different methodologies for the calculation of rates may have been used in the past; thus, comparisons to previous reports should be made with caution.
Source: Statistics Canada, Canadian Centre for Justice Statistics, Transition Home Survey.

Few women in shelters report the abuse to police

Respondents reported that for most abused women (6 in 10) residing in shelters on April 15, 2010, the incident which brought them there was not reported to police. Similarly, respondents reported that 27% of the incidents that brought women into shelters resulted in formal charges being laid, and 26% resulted in the imposition of a restraining order or similar undertaking against the abuser.

Types of services offered at shelters changed little in 2010

Shelter types can differ both in the durations of stay they can offer clients and in the types of services they have available. Though a wide range of services is usually available at most shelters, some variation exists, particularly for those shelters offering short-term stays (less than one week) compared with those offering stays of longer duration (one month or more) (Table 8). For example, individual long-term counselling is more frequently offered by second-stage housing facilities (available at 57% of facilities) than by emergency shelters (available at 30% of facilities).

The provision of services offered by the same shelters has changed little over time. The availability of the most common types of services, namely, safety and protection planning and advocacy on behalf of women (each available at 92% of shelters) did not change in 2010. Similarly, no change was noted in the availability of the less common services (e.g. job training and family counselling, available at 30% and 20% of facilities, respectively).

Shelters serving Aboriginal populations

The issue of victimization among Canada's Aboriginal population has been the focus of many recent studies (Perreault 2011; Scrim 2010). According to a recent report, Aboriginal women were close to three times as likely to report being victims of spousal violence than were non-Aboriginal women (Brennan 2011).

Though the THS does not collect information on the Aboriginal identity of women staying at shelters, it does ask respondents to indicate whether or not their facility is located on a reserve, whether or not their facility serves an on-reserve population, and whether or not their facility offers services sensitive to the needs of an Aboriginal clientele.

On April 15, 2010 the largest proportion of on-reserve shelters were emergency shelters (26%), followed by transition homes and women's emergency shelters (23% each). In total, there were 39 shelters admitting abused women located on reserves in six provinces: Nova Scotia, Quebec, Ontario, Manitoba, Alberta and British Columbia. Of these, Alberta and Nova Scotia had the highest proportion of shelters operating on reserves (18% and 17%, respectively).

Many shelters not located on a reserve reported serving an on-reserve population on the snapshot day. Across Canada, 25% or 146 shelters served clients residing on reserves. More specifically, about one-fifth (20%) of all transition homes reported serving on reserve clients, while one-third (32%) of all emergency-type shelters (emergency shelters and women's emergency shelters) reported serving these populations. Among the provinces, Manitoba had the highest proportion of shelters that reported serving reserves (48%), while Prince Edward Island did not report any such shelters. These two provinces also had the highest and lowest proportions of those who self-identified as an Aboriginal person (Bisson et al. 2010).

Transition homes and other shelters sometimes offer services that recognize and accommodate the distinct needs of Aboriginal women. Examples of services sensitive to the needs of Aboriginal women include those designed around traditional healing and mediation practices, or the presence of counsellors with knowledge of Aboriginal languages and customs. Of those shelters that reported serving an on-reserve Aboriginal population, 79% reported offering culturally sensitive services. Of the shelters that did not report serving a reserve area, 59% offered culturally sensitive services for Aboriginal clients.

Summary

The number of shelters for abused women has continued to increase in recent years, resulting in an increase in the number of beds available. Though transition homes continue to be the most common type of shelter offering services to abused women, the number of second-stage housing facilities and women's emergency shelters has also increased.

In 2009/2010, about 64,500 admissions of women were reported by shelters across Canada, a slight increase from the previous year. Abuse remained the primary motivation for women seeking admission to shelters, though lack of housing and other reasons were also reported relatively frequently. Among those women in shelters for reasons of abuse, the majority have been victimized by a current common-law partner or spouse, and most had not reported the incident to police.

Data source and methodology

The Transition Home Survey (THS) was developed under the federal government's Family Violence Initiative in consultation with provincial and territorial governments and transition home associations. Since 1993, the objectives of the survey have been to collect information on the characteristics of all residential services for abused women and their children during the previous 12 months of operation. In addition, the THS collects information on selected characteristics for the women residing in these shelters on a specified 'snapshot' day.

Included in the scope of the THS are shelters that serve a population broader than abused women, such as shelters admitting men as well as women and shelters admitting people for reasons other than abuse. Facilities that exclusively serve males and shelters that do not provide residential services are not included in the THS. The scope of the THS is limited to those facilities that come to the attention of Statistics Canada through its consultations with provincial and territorial governments and transition home and other associations.

Of the 593 residential facilities providing services to abused women and their children, 518 returned their questionnaires for a response rate of 87%. For those respondents who did not provide their information through the questionnaire, and for those respondents who did not answer some of the key questions on their survey forms, an imputation procedure was used to estimate the missing data.

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Notes

1. Shelters were asked to provide 12 months of data corresponding to a standard fiscal year (April 1, 2009 to March 31, 2010), a calendar year, or a 12 month period of their own choosing. In 2009/2010, 82% of shelters responding to the survey reported their annual information based on a standard fiscal year.

2. Rates of admissions are calculated on the basis of July 1 population estimates of women aged 15 years and over. Rates of admissions for those who reported spousal abuse are calculated on the basis July 1 population estimates of women aged 15 and over who are married, living in common-law relationships, or are separated or divorced. Different methodologies for the calculation of rates may have been used in the past; thus, comparisons to previous reports should be made with caution.

3. About 7 in 10 admissions were for reasons of abuse. In addition, the total number of admissions of women includes women who may have been admitted more than once. Each shelter visit is counted as a separate admission. Not all facilities reported fiscal year admissions data to the Transition Home Survey (THS). The THS is designed to collect information pertaining to residential services for abused women. Though a minority of the facilities responding to the THS offer services to men as well as to women, the focus of this article is on the female clients of shelters. For more information on shelters admitting men, please refer to Text Box 3, "Admissions of men". Many shelters also admit women along with their children. For more information on the admission of children, see Text Box 4, "Admissions of children".

4. While the Transition Home Survey (THS) is designed to collect information pertaining to residential services for abused women, shelters responding to the survey may admit women for reasons other than abuse.

5. Categories are not mutually exclusive. Respondents were asked to indicate as many reasons for admission as applied in the case of each woman admitted. Therefore, totals do not add to 100%.

Detailed data tables

Table 1
Number of shelters, beds and admissions of women, Canada, provinces and territories, 2010

Province and territory	Shelters		Beds		Admissions[1]		
	number April 15, 2010	percent change April 16, 2008 to April 15, 2010	number April 15, 2010	percent change April 16, 2008 to April 15, 2010	number fiscal year 2009/2010	rate fiscal year 2009/2010[2]	percent change in rate 2007/2008 to 2009/2010
Newfoundland and Labrador	16	7	194	8	578	260	-19
Prince Edward Island	4	...	54	...	187	307	...
Nova Scotia	18	13	304	41	1,391	336	85
New Brunswick	23	5	324	6	1,117	343	-18
Quebec	126	0	1,968	10	15,962	477	14
Ontario	171	7	4,081	1	19,080	344	-2
Manitoba	29	0	894	29	3,359	670	-2
Saskatchewan	26	8	546	19	2,349	555	18
Alberta	50	0	1,304	1	8,289	561	-2
British Columbia	111	1	1,586	1	10,343	541	-16
Yukon	6	...	70	...	533	3,897	...
Northwest Territories	6	...	64	...	919	5,653	...
Nunavut	7	...	72	...	418	4,004	...
Canada	**593**	**4**	**11,461**	**7**	**64,525**	**452**	**2**

... not applicable
1. About 7 in 10 admissions were for reasons of abuse. In addition, the total number of admissions of women includes women who may have been admitted more than once. Each shelter visit is counted as a separate admission. Not all facilities reported fiscal year admissions data to the Transition Home Survey.
2. Rates are calculated per 100,000 women aged 15 years and over.
Note: Rates are based upon July 1 population estimates of women aged 15 years and over. Different methodologies for the calculation of rates may have been used in the past; thus, comparisons to previous reports should be made with caution. Due to the variability in small numbers, percent changes have not been calculated when the number of shelters is below 10 in any given year.
Source: Statistics Canada, Canadian Centre for Justice Statistics, Transition Home Survey.

Table 2
Number of beds, by selected type of shelter, Canada, provinces and territories, April 15, 2010

Province and territory	Transition home		Second-stage housing		Emergency shelter	
	number	percent of beds	number	percent of beds	number	percent of beds
Newfoundland and Labrador	86	44	69	36	10	5
Prince Edward Island	...	...	28	52	26	48
Nova Scotia	191	63	89	29	24	8
New Brunswick	190	59	85	26	49	15
Quebec	1,365	69	231	12	82	4
Ontario	1,186	29	944	23	1,013	25
Manitoba	54	6	220	25	369	41
Saskatchewan	170	31	157	29	177	32
Alberta	140	11	360	28	239	18
British Columbia	819	52	386	24	213	13
Yukon	62	89	8	11	...	...
Northwest Territories	20	31	...	...	...	...
Nunavut	21	29	...	...	19	26
Canada	**4,304**	**38**	**2,577**	**22**	**2,221**	**19**

Province and territory	Women's emergency centre		Other[1]		Total shelters	
	number	percent of beds	number	percent of beds	number	percent of beds
Newfoundland and Labrador	13	7	16	8	194	100
Prince Edward Island	...	...	...	...	54	100
Nova Scotia	...	...	...	...	304	100
New Brunswick	...	...	...	...	324	100
Quebec	122	6	168	9	1,968	100
Ontario	722	18	216	5	4,081	100
Manitoba	169	19	82	9	894	100
Saskatchewan	34	6	8	1	546	100
Alberta	542	42	23	2	1,304	100
British Columbia	64	4	104	7	1,586	100
Yukon	...	...	...	...	70	100
Northwest Territories	44	69	...	...	64	100
Nunavut	32	44	...	...	72	100
Canada	**1,742**	**15**	**617**	**5**	**11,461**	**100**

... not applicable
1. Includes any other shelters or facilities not otherwise classified. Among these, there were 80 beds in Family Resource Centres (Ontario), and 67 beds in Interim Housing facilities (Manitoba).
Source: Statistics Canada, Canadian Centre for Justice Statistics, Transition Home Survey.

Table 3
Annual number of admissions of women to shelters, by selected type of shelter, Canada, provinces and territories, 2009/2010

Province and territory	Transition home		Second-stage housing		Emergency shelter	
	number	percent of admissions	number	percent of admissions	number	percent of admissions
Newfoundland and Labrador	303	52	56	10	90	16
Prince Edward Island	...	...	20	11	167	89
Nova Scotia	1,044	75	47	3	300	22
New Brunswick	863	77	74	7	180	16
Quebec	13,542	85	257	2	223	1
Ontario	6,971	37	618	3	6,196	32
Manitoba	191	6	73	2	1,284	38
Saskatchewan	916	39	60	3	1,134	48
Alberta	849	10	281	3	2,242	27
British Columbia	7,172	69	319	3	2,171	21
Yukon	525	98	8	2	...	...
Northwest Territories	192	21	...	...	...	...
Nunavut	138	33	...	...	280	67
Canada	**32,706**	**51**	**1,813**	**3**	**14,267**	**22**

Province and territory	Women's emergency shelter		Other[1]		Total	
	number	percent of admissions	number	percent of admissions	number	percent of admissions
Newfoundland and Labrador	106	18	23	4	578	100
Prince Edward Island	...	...	...	...	187	100
Nova Scotia	...	...	...	...	1,391	100
New Brunswick	...	...	...	...	1,117	100
Quebec	1,156	7	784	5	15,962	100
Ontario	4,486	24	809	4	19,080	100
Manitoba	1,655	49	156	5	3,359	100
Saskatchewan	162	7	77	3	2,349	100
Alberta	4,780	58	137	2	8,289	100
British Columbia	500	5	181	2	10,343	100
Yukon	...	...	...	...	533	100
Northwest Territories	727	79	...	...	919	100
Nunavut	...	...	...	...	418	100
Canada	**13,572**	**21**	**2,167**	**3**	**64,525**	**100**

... not applicable
1. Includes any other shelters or facilities not otherwise classified. In 2009/2010, there were 541 admissions to Family Resource Centres (Ontario) and 69 admissions to Interim Housing (Manitoba).
Note: About 7 in 10 admissions were for reasons of abuse. In addition, the total number of admissions of women includes women who may have been admitted more than once. Each shelter visit is counted as a separate admission. Not all facilities reported fiscal year admissions data to the Transition Home Survey.
Source: Statistics Canada, Canadian Centre for Justice Statistics, Transition Home Survey.

Table 4
Number of women residents, by selected type of shelter, Canada, provinces and territories, April 15, 2010

Province and territory	Transition home		Second-stage housing		Emergency shelter	
	number	percent of residents	number	percent of residents	number	percent of residents
Newfoundland and Labrador	47	48	35	36	1	1
Prince Edward Island	...	...	10	42	14	58
Nova Scotia	47	56	32	38	5	6
New Brunswick	43	44	36	37	18	19
Quebec	612	67	89	10	14	2
Ontario	471	25	349	19	611	33
Manitoba	24	11	46	22	75	36
Saskatchewan	47	27	45	25	65	37
Alberta	56	13	117	27	65	15
British Columbia	295	46	184	28	103	16
Yukon	10	77	3	23	...	...
Northwest Territories	5	11	...	...	...	...
Nunavut	12	35	...	...	12	35
Canada	**1,669**	**36**	**946**	**20**	**983**	**21**

Province and territory	Women's emergency centre		Other[1]		Total shelters	
	number	percent of residents	number	percent of residents	number	percent of residents
Newfoundland and Labrador	8	8	6	6	97	100
Prince Edward Island	...	...	...	...	24	100
Nova Scotia	...	...	...	...	84	100
New Brunswick	...	...	...	...	97	100
Quebec	63	7	140	15	918	100
Ontario	322	17	117	6	1,870	100
Manitoba	43	21	21	10	209	100
Saskatchewan	17	10	3	2	177	100
Alberta	184	43	9	2	431	100
British Columbia	24	4	41	6	647	100
Yukon	...	...	...	...	13	100
Northwest Territories	39	89	...	...	44	100
Nunavut	10	29	...	...	34	100
Canada	**710**	**15**	**337**	**7**	**4,645**	**100**

... not applicable
1. Includes any other shelters or facilities not otherwise classified, such as Family Resource Centres (Ontario), Interim Housing (Manitoba), Rural Family Violence Prevention Centres (Alberta), safe home networks, and other types of emergency shelters. In 2009/2010, Family Resource Centres (Ontario) reported 23 residents on April 15, 2010, Interim Housing (Manitoba) reported 19 residents, and no residents were reported by Rural Family Violence Centres (Alberta).
Source: Statistics Canada, Canadian Centre for Justice Statistics, Transition Home Survey.

Table 5
Frequency of women's shelter stays, by type of shelter, Canada, April 15, 2010

	No previous stays in the last 12 months		1 previous stay in the last 12 months		2 to 4 previous stays in the last 12 months	
Type of shelter	**number**	**percent**	**number**	**percent**	**number**	**percent**
Transition home	1,128	69	195	12	121	7
Second-stage housing	708	80	120	13	10	1
Emergency shelter	634	65	93	10	135	14
Women's emergency shelter	408	58	126	18	86	12
Family Resource Centre	13	57	6	26	3	13
Safe home network	24	86	2	7	0	0
Other[1]	198	85	7	3	12	6
Total	**3,113**	**69**	**549**	**12**	**367**	**8**

	5 or more previous stays in the last 12 months		More than 12 months since last stay		Number of previous stays unknown	Total residents
Type of shelter	**number**	**percent**	**number**	**percent**	**number**	
Transition home	42	3	160	10	23	1,669
Second-stage housing	7	1	44	5	57	946
Emergency shelter	74	8	35	4	12	983
Women's emergency shelter	48	7	38	5	4	710
Family Resource Centre	0	0	1	4	0	23
Safe home network	0	0	2	7	0	28
Other[1]	1	0	16	7	52	286
Total	**172**	**4**	**296**	**7**	**148**	**4,645**

1. Includes any other shelters or facilities not otherwise classified, such as Interim Housing (Manitoba), Rural Family Violence Prevention Centres (Alberta) and other types of emergency shelters.
Source: Statistics Canada, Canadian Centre for Justice Statistics, Transition Home Survey.

Table 6
Reasons women seek shelter, Canada, April 15, 2010

Type of reason	Frequency reason cited	Percentage of women[1]
Abuse		
Emotional abuse	2,998	66
Physical abuse	2,440	53
Threats	1,809	40
Financial abuse	1,791	39
Harassment	1,259	28
Sexual abuse	1,139	25
Other abuse	437	10
Protecting children from		
Witnessing abuse of mother	1,170	26
Psychological abuse	1,090	24
Physical abuse	573	13
Threats	489	11
Neglect	370	8
Sexual abuse	215	5
Housing		
Unable to find affordable housing	1,364	30
Short-term housing problem	820	18
Housing emergency	534	12
Mental health	1,044	23
Drug/alcohol addiction	884	19
Other[2]	440	10
Unknown	77	...
Total reasons for admission	**20,943**	...

... not applicable
1. Categories are not mutually exclusive. Respondents may indicate multiple reasons for seeking shelter. Thus, percentages will not add up to 100%.
2. Examples of other reasons for seeking shelter include women seeking shelter due to destruction of property.
Source: Statistics Canada, Canadian Centre for Justice Statistics, Transition Home Survey.

Table 7
Women in shelters because of abuse by a current or former spouse or common-law partner, Canada, provinces and territories, April 15, 2010

Province and territory	number	percent[1]	rate[2]
Newfoundland and Labrador	43	88	29
Prince Edward Island	12	100	30
Nova Scotia	61	84	23
New Brunswick	42	69	20
Quebec	504	88	24
Ontario	864	76	24
Manitoba	93	84	30
Saskatchewan	95	85	35
Alberta	234	80	24
British Columbia	348	80	28
Yukon	8	62	85
Northwest Territories	6	100	58
Nunavut	20	65	350
Canada	**2,330**	**80**	**25**

1. Percent of abused women in shelters who are there because of abuse by a current or former spouse or common-law partner. Percentages are based on totals excluding counts where the relationship to the abuser is unknown.
2. Rates are based upon July 1 population estimates of women aged 15 years and over who are married, living in common-law relationships, or are separated or divorced. Different methodologies for the calculation of rates may have been used in the past; thus, comparisons to previous reports should be made with caution.
Source: Statistics Canada, Canadian Centre for Justice Statistics, Transition Home Survey.

Table 8
Services offered by selected type of shelter, Canada, 2010

Type of service	Transition home	Second-stage housing	Emergency shelter	Women's emergency centre	Other[1]	Total
	percent					
Safety or protection planning	95	91	86	95	82	**92**
Advocacy on behalf of women	93	91	90	93	87	**92**
Transportation services	95	76	86	95	80	**89**
Individual short-term counselling	91	81	84	86	84	**87**
Housing referrals	87	83	92	95	78	**87**
Life skills	81	85	79	77	76	**81**
Parenting skills	85	77	71	84	64	**80**
Crisis telephone line	80	36	68	86	60	**69**
Financial assistance	70	60	56	77	58	**66**
Services for people with disabilities	67	54	68	78	60	**65**
Culturally sensitive services for minority populations	67	60	55	79	51	**65**
Culturally sensitive services for Aboriginal people	63	51	68	85	62	**64**
Legal services	68	57	56	73	53	**64**
Group counselling	66	63	55	59	56	**62**
Lesbian sensitive services	63	53	59	74	51	**61**
Mental health services	57	52	48	75	53	**57**
Medical services	51	43	47	62	38	**49**
Recreational services	54	50	37	40	29	**47**
Addiction counselling	46	40	41	53	51	**46**
Services for older women (55 and over)	45	29	32	33	51	**39**
Individual long-term counselling	37	57	30	23	44	**39**
Job training	27	32	32	38	29	**30**
Family counselling	18	23	19	21	20	**20**
Other services[2]	23	27	22	22	29	**24**

1. Other shelter types include safe home networks, Interim housing (Manitoba only), Family Resource Centres (Ontario only), and other types of shelter.
2. Examples of other services include outreach, education, and specialized prenatal/pregnancy programs.
Source: Statistics Canada, Canadian Centre for Justice Statistics, Transition Home Survey.